



Rhetoric



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October 8, 1981

Convocation: "A Committment to Education"

By Catherine A. North and
Chris Bednarski

Approximately 300 members of the senior class, as well as administrators and faculty, attended the Fall Convocation ceremony held in Weston Auditorium on Wednesday afternoon. This ceremony marks the beginning of the seniors last year.

Fred Abraham, president of the senior class, spoke at the ceremony. In his speech he compared the four years of college to a Monopoly game board. He said, for the senior class "three-fourths of the game is done. All that is left is the best. It is the best year of our lives; in Monopoly it is the best property."

He also spoke of the wealth acquired. "In Monopoly you gain monetary wealth. In school, the wealth is in terms of education and friendship," he said.

Abraham borrowed the telephone company's slogan "Reach out, reach out and touch someone." He urged everyone to reach out and to do more than just nod to someone while passing them in the G-lobby.

With a final allusion to Monopoly he told the seniors, "A couple more rolls of the dice and we're off the board."

Before Mr. Abraham, Dr. Vincent J. Mara spoke to the assembly. He began his speech by citing the many accomplishments and improvements that have occurred in the last five years at the college, from increased parking facilities and improved student advising "to the point where it is having measurable effects on our retention rate" to opening new programs in computer science and other programs "from education through graduate studies while initiating 11 new academic minors."

He said the college faces two challenges in the future: "the maintenance of quality and interest in our

academic programs in a world where contemplative values and skills are seen of little merit" and "the propensity of the legislature to seek changes in public higher education through the budgetary process, where the paramount concern is money, and not educational quality or opportunity."

In the last two years so-called "outside sections" of the state budget has changed public higher education by establishing the existing Board of Regents in 1980 and forcing the merger of Boston State and U Mass Boston in 1981, according to Mara. He argued that these changes ought to come through the legislatures regular standing committees on education, if at all.

Mara suggested that the college should respond to what he called the internal challenge of maintaining quality in its academic programs by studying and recommending changes in its curriculum. A proposal to do so is currently before the college's All College Committee.

As to the external challenge, he asked the students and faculty to join with the administration in "a commitment to excellence" that would once again direct the attitudes or public policy makers to become more supportive. He argued that the legislature would be responsive to such a demonstration and the achievements of the last five years provided reasons for Fitchburg State to be optimistic.

Stating that are some faculty, "who prefer the fear of change over the adventure of academic and professional growth" and some students "who prefer the beer blast to the explosion of new ideas and experience this college offers," Mara urged the assembly not pursue excellence as "the moral choice of hope over despair."



Fitchburg State College President Dr. Vincent J. Mara addresses Fall Convocation. Staff Photo

New Resident Directors



Marsha Kelly

Photo by Gary Richardson



Linda Swears

Photo by Gary Richardson

Two new resident directors and assistant directors have been named to the 1981 - 82 school year, said Bessie Palmisciano, director of housing and residence halls.

Marsha Kelly is director of Herlihy Hall and the off-campus apartments. She was a resident director at Regis College. She has a master's degree in education from Boston College.

Linda Swears, assistant director to Kelly, is working in the Townhouses. She was a resident director for two years at the University of Southern Maine at Portland-Gorham and is a graduate of the same university with a bachelor's degree in political science.

The new resident director of Aubuchon Hall is Jim Murphy. For two years he was resident director at Keene State College in New Hamp-

shire. Presently he is working on his master's degree in business administration. He is living in Aubuchon Hall with his wife and two children.

Rick Stewart is the new resident director of Russell Towers. Last year he was the director of Herlihy Hall. He has taken courses in student personnel at Colorado State University. Before coming to Fitchburg State College he was a resident assistant at the University of Vermont.

General Education Plan Hangs in the Balance

By Catherine A. North

The proposal of a revised general education requirements plan is scheduled to go before the All College Council (ACC) this month, but there is a general consensus among some of the faculty in the sixteen academic departments to study the plan for at least two more months.

This possibility was also discussed by students and faculty at the departmental meetings that pre-empted the convocation ceremony Wednesday.

In his convocation speech President Mara said, "My own preference is that we take two or three additional months for discussion and counter proposals."

After nearly two years of review by the ACC and the Curriculum Com-

mittee, the former group, last December, designated a subcommittee to continue the process of reviewing the general education system at FSC - with the intention of designing a proposal for a general education structure.

In an interview last semester the subcommittee cited three reasons for revising the present general education system: 1) A lack of continuity and flexibility of the structure, 2) Ten years ago FSC was a teacher institution, that was also the last time the system was reviewed. At that time 85 percent of the graduates were in education, today it is 29 percent, and 3) The NEA accreditation team is coming to review the college this year. One of the things they will scrutinize is the general education system.

Homecoming Events

THURSDAY OCTOBER 15

All College Period in G-Lobby
Are you a leg girl?
Bid on the best legs on the Football team
Winners get tree dinner

SATURDAY OCTOBER 17

1 - 4 p.m.
Take a balloon ride
Raffle for 45 minute balloon ride
Three winners
Cafe Party
Robert Ellis Orrat, Midnight Traveler playing

1st hundred get free T-shirts
Raffle for concert tickets, door prizes

SUNDAY OCTOBER 18

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Make a poster for the Falcon's
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FRESHMEN ELECTIONS

Campaign Week

Mon., Oct. 5 - Mon., Oct. 12

Candidate's Hour

Oct. 8 at 1:30, G-Lobby

Vote Oct. 13th & 14th

Student Ambassadors

By Ann Marie Tisevich

They wear green blazers, carry a book of knowledge in their heads and are often called upon to greet visitors to the college.

They're a select group of 15 students who act as ambassadors for Fitchburg State College.

This is the second year the student ambassadors have existed as a group on campus.

Associate Dean of Students, Lon Vickers explained, "Bill Donahue created the concept and sold it to the President (President Mara). The concept was to have a group of select students act as public relations representatives."

According to Vickers, the best representatives of the school are students who attend the school. "The student is a consumer," he said. "People are more likely to listen to a student."

The ambassadors travel to various college nights and fairs, host groups of administrative officials visiting F.S.C., work with the alumni office and take part in the alumni telethon, set up functions and act as waiters and waitresses at special dinners.

Vickers is opposed to the use of the word salesman to describe the ambassador. Rather, he thinks of the student ambassador as a representative who "has a sense of pride in Fitchburg State College."

He said, "Ambassadors range from honor students, athletes there's a good cross section of majors, men and women (the women outnumber the men), handicapped and minority students. They really are representative."

Vickers, who is co-ordinating the program with his wife, Marke Vickers (Associate Director of Admissions), says the ambassadors are chosen after a series of interviews. He looks for, "someone who has a sense of pride in F.S.C., who's articulate, poised, and comfortable communicating with a lot of different people." Ultimately, a student ambassador serves as a role model.

"Last year when two of the Board of Regents came to the college the president welcomed them and the ambassadors hosted them for the day," Vickers said.

One of those students was ambassador Charles (Chuck) Korn. Korn got involved with the ambassadors program a year ago. A poster brought his attention to the group. "I thought, here's your opportunity to get involved as a student and get familiar with the administration," he said.

Korn searches his desk for a copy of the poster which left an impression on him. He is the visual image of Vickers' description of a student ambassador. Tall and clean-cut, Korn speaks with the kind of self-assurance that a politician might have.

"As a student ambassador I serve as a coordinator of student life and presidential offices," he said.

He explains that last year the ambassadors worked with the alumni office. "This year we want to do more with student life. We're hoping that we'll have more visibility on campus," he said.

Korn wants the ambassadors to become a resource for students. He takes a box filled with books and pamphlets down from his closet. "If we can't answer a question, we can channel students to someone who can," Korn said, leaning through the materials. "Students are afraid to go to administrators but not their peers."

Another student working with ambassadors for his second year is John Foley, president of the class of '84.

What's his definition of a student ambassador? "We're a non-paid group of junior administrators," he says.

He sees student ambassadors as a precedent. "President Mara was the only (state college) president who allowed students to take regents on tour of the campus. This is a student guided project."

Student guided indeed! Last year, Foley submitted a reorganization plan for student ambassadors. The plan consisted of a chair person and a coordinator in each of three areas. The plan was ratified and this year the ambassadors are functioning according to the plan.

According to Foley the student ambassadors take part in choosing future ambassadors. After a series of interviews, the ambassadors, along with some administrators "sit around and talk about the applicants, their assets and their drawbacks. Then we take a vote," said Foley.

After the new ambassadors are chosen (several positions remain open for incoming freshmen) the students attend a training session where they learn how to shake hands, how to sit, how to dress and other forms of nonverbal communication.

New to the ambassador program is freshman computer science major Margaret Driscoll.

"In the last few weeks I've learned a lot about the college I didn't know," she said.

"At first I thought, how can I give a tour when I don't know anything about the school?" Driscoll said.

Her fears were soon washed away. She explained that she's been attending meetings and was given a "crash course on Fitchburg State College."

She added, "In no way are the administrators putting us out in the cold. They've given us the information and materials we need. I think it's great and a good chance for students to get involved on campus."

Student ambassadors for the 1981-82 year are: Susan Abbott, Jeanne Callery, Anne Calzetta, Gail Castonguay, Loraine Clough, Ann Costello, Margaret Driscoll, John Foley, Paul Keenan, Charles Korn, Donna Landry, Reginald Pittman, Cathy Rawnski, Robert Ready and Sheila Sheehan.

Newman Center to Walk Again

On Oct. 18, the Newman Center will be "running" its only fund raising event of the school year. This year's "Walkaton" plans to be a great time for all involved. The "Walkaton" is being coordinated through the efforts of Ernie Chaplin, Therese Racine, and Laurie Salerno. To join in on the "Walkaton" just pick up a pledge sheet at the information desk or at the Newman Center anytime.

The "Walkaton" encompasses an 8 mile walk through Fitchburg.

The "Walkaton" will start at 1:00 p.m. at the Newman Center. A cook-out will be held at the Center after the walk for all involved.

Tee-Shirts will be awarded for pledges over \$15.00, and \$25.00 will be given to the person who collects the most money over \$50.00. So remember to leave Sunday, Oct. 18th open, so that you may be part of a tiring, but rewarding experience.

Clubs and Classes

Geography/Earth Science Club News

By R. Seymour

The Geo/Earth Sci. Club would like to welcome the following new members. Andrew Rappaport, David Jolie, Wendy Bigelow, Robert Moran, Suzanne Lancaster, Marcy McDonald, Linda Guda, Debbie Pucci, Art O'Leary, Mike Mendoza, Mary Cloughery, Collen Taylor, Kelly MacLean and Allison Picard. Our rapidly increasing membership illustrates that the Geo. club is alive and well and a very popular student activity. These new people have much in store for them, both educationally and socially.

This year's activities got under way this past weekend, as 19 members of the club spent a few days on Cape Cod. The club fall field trip was held on the weekend of

Sept. 25th - 27th. The geologic formation and history of the Cape was presented by Dr. Robert Champlin, and Dr. James Barbuto discussed various topics concerning coastal erosion, beach development and other oceanographic topics. Due to the large number of new members, these presentations were rather informal and enjoyed by all. The weekend was kicked off by a club B-B-O on Friday evening to welcome all members back for the '81-'82 year. All concerned agreed that the entire trip was a great success.

The club is planning the first "STAR PARTY" of the '81-'82 season. Anyone interested in astronomy, U.F.O.'s or heavenly bodies is urged to come down to E101 (The Geo. Resource Center) for details. This first "Star party" is planned for Thursday

evening, Oct. 8th. Two high power telescopes will be present for viewing, and transportation to the nearby site in Ashby can be arranged.

Other activities for this coming year include more star parties, the annual Christmas bash, a spring trip to the Lake Champlain region of N.Y./Vt., various lectures on earth science and energy topics, day trips to the National Weather Service at Logan Airport and the annual Spring Outing. Anyone interested in taking part in any or all of these activities is urged to come down to E-101 for details. The only requirements to join the Geo/Earth Sci. club are to have an interest in your environment and a willingness to meet new and exciting people. Persons in any major are welcome - so come down today.

One reason that it is so popular is because of the magnificent views from virtually all locations on the mountain. Also, the fact that it takes a relatively short period of time, such as two hours, to reach the top is another factor that makes it so appealing. One Outing Club member commented that there was barely enough room for them to sit down at the top when they arrived there at noon.

The Outing Club runs many trips for students during the semester. Upcoming events include a bike trip to Martha's Vineyard on Columbus Day weekend. Also, the club will be sponsoring balloon rides on the weekend of Oct. 17-18 in conjunction with the Programs Committee. Parachuting will be held on Oct. 24. Anyone who is interested should contact Debbie Dunkle. Rock climbing will be every Wednesday at Crow Hill.

Health Service Stress

By Robert Ready

There has been much said about stress and its effect on our health, in recent years. According to researchers, there seems to be both good and bad types of stress. For example, the pressure which is left by an athlete before a competition or the stress which a business person feels before an important meeting can be considered good. Everyone seems to have a personal limit to both good and bad stress. Problems seem to develop when people go beyond their limit or when there is too much negative stress such as constant pressures at work, school, or home. There is increasing evidence that stress and the day to day hassles of life, increase a person's susceptibility to infectious diseases.

Despite the harmful effects of stress, there are many ways in which you can make stress work for you. Hans Selye, a scientist known as the father of stress research, suggests using the motto, "Fight for your highest attainable aim / but never put up resistance in vain." His philosophy states that a person should choose alternatives that provide a person with positive stresses and fulfillment. He also believes that a person should walk away from futile situations.

We can not eliminate stress from our lives, because anything we do or experience is a stress on our bodies and minds, but we can try to control it. Experts suggest, "Don't let stress push you too far."

Outing Club News

By S. McLaughlin M. Murphy
A. Wright

On Friday, Sept. 18th, thirteen Outing Club members left Fitchburg for a weekend in the White Mountains. This trip was the first Outing Club adventure of the semester. Not only did these students report that they had an enjoyable time, but they commented on how much they learned as a group and individually.

For example, they had to work together to prepare meals (one of the most interesting concoctions was called Adirondack stew??), follow difficult trails and search out campsites.

This hike was a lengthy one and the members considered it to be an excellent challenge of their own physical endurance. The first day they hiked three miles, the second they hiked eight miles in the rain and the third day they tackled Mt. Garfield. Reaching the peak of this last site was considered to be the highlight of the weekend.

On Sunday, Sept. 27, the Outing Club held its first day hike of the semester. Five members of the club drove to Jaffrey, N.H. to Monadnock State Park. For a \$1.00 fee and the cost of gas, they were able to climb Mt. Monadnock, one of the world's most popular climbs.

Band Has Plans

The FSC Concert Band is preparing for yet another year of concerts and we'd like you to be a part of us. Right now plans are being finalized for our annual spring tour which will take us to Washington D.C. Other concerts will include both spring and fall convocation, an Intercolligate Band Festival in mid-November, a Holiday concert, and a concert at Salem State.

Aside from all the hard work that goes into a concert, band members always find time to get together, whether it be a gathering after a performance, or a day of softball in Ashby.

If you're interested in joining us, we rehearse every Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. in Weston Auditorium. There are instruments available for students to borrow each semester at no charge.

If you'd like more information concerning the Concert Band, please contact box #6302 or see Mr. Frank Patterson in room 164 of the Conlon Music Building.

We're open to any full or part-time student or alumni of FSC. Our only requirement is interest!

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Prepared For the Inevitable

By Amy Bonvouloir

I used to be a great one for saying that "it could never happen to me." As far as I was concerned, it only happened to "other people." That's why keys to our apartment were carelessly left on ledges, windows were often left unlocked, and lights were shut off when nobody was home. Who would want to break into our apartment?

Then, late last Friday night when I was alone in my apartment, the inevitable happened. A man broke in. He only got \$20.00, but anything could have happened. Picture lying in bed and hearing your door open, thinking it's your roommate. Picture a man 6'2" with heavy gloves on who

shines a flashlight in your face, and maybe you'll—

1.) Lock every door and window at all times!

Our window was unlocked when the break-in occurred.

2.) Try not to be alone.

This is inevitable sometimes, but at least try to know who will be around, in your building or nearby. I wasted at least 15 minutes that night calling people who weren't home.

3.) Try to leave some lights on and, if possible, a radio.

All our lights were off that night, and the burglar probably thought nobody was home.

4.) Keep emergency numbers

posted, and call the police if it happens. Even though the man had already left, I gave the police a description of the man that matched up with previous descriptions given by students.

5.) Check out all the locks in your apartment. If any looks seem weak or old, tell your landlord. He or she should be aware of the situation.

6.) Try not to panic. The pattern seems to be that the thieves generally want small items (cash, cameras, etc.) and nobody has been hurt, yet.

7.) Above all, you can't be too careful!

On the Future of Public Higher Education in Massachusetts

By Dr. John Burke

The topic of education today hardly lends itself to an optimistic treatment. No matter where we look today in education, whether at the Federal level where President Reagan is proposing new cuts in student loan programs and an end to the Department of Education, or at the state and local levels, where Proposition 2½ is closing schools, education everywhere is in dire straits. It is estimated for example, that as many as 20,000 Massachusetts students could drop out of colleges if the federal loan program is further curtailed. On the elementary and secondary levels here in Massachusetts, art, music, language and other "frills" are being terminated in order to reduce expenditures to the levels demanded by a regressive tax program. Wherever one looks the situation is gloomy. This is especially true in teaching itself, where people are being separated from careers to which they had thought they would dedicate a lifetime.

In a sense, we are the victims of demography. The (babyboom) that great wave of new students born in the sixties, which moved through our educational institutions, is now cresting at the doors of our colleges and universities. Rolling along behind that crest is the inevitable trough. It has already moved through primary and secondary grades, leaving in its wake abandoned schoolhouses and harried administrators worried about how much more will have to be jettisoned to save what is left of the ship of education.

What has happened at the primary and secondary levels can also happen at the college level. In the midst of bulging enrollments, we are sobered by the demographers who tell us that every year in the eighties the number of college entrance age students will decrease until 1992 finally shows a slight upturn.

None of this is news. Indeed the planners for public higher education in the State have had about ten years to decide what to do about this demographic time bomb. For much of that time they did nothing. In their defense notice must be taken of the complicating factor of the state's private colleges. Massachusetts has the most prestigious grouping of private colleges and

universities in the country. There are in the state nine private universities, 45 private four year colleges and numerous private two year institutions. Some of these schools have national and even international reputations.

Taken in the aggregate, they enroll about 190,000 students. The number of students coming into the state to study at private colleges is double the number who leave the state to study at private colleges elsewhere. This fact is not only a tribute to the excellence of these institutions but also an indication of the important role they play in the state's economy.

The ratio of Massachusetts students who leave the state to study elsewhere as compared to those who come to study here is reversed in the public sector. That is, more students leave the state to study at public institutions elsewhere than come to study at a public college in Massachusetts. On the other hand, almost 90 percent of all graduates of our public colleges remain in the state to become taxpayers and to contribute to the state's prosperity and well-being.

So private and public colleges in the state complement each other nicely and, in less pressured times, have gotten along well albeit, mostly by going their own way. With the decline of college age students the eighties is sure to see increased competition for these students between private and public colleges. Indeed the competition has already begun.

The state system consisted up to last year of five segments and 30 institutions. One segment consisted of a Board of Trustees, a central office, and three campuses (Amherst, Worcester, Boston) of the University of Massachusetts. Two additional segments consisted of autonomous universities in the north-east (Lowell University) and south-east (Southeast Massachusetts University) section of the state. Spread across the state were the fifteen community colleges enrolling about 30,000 students. Approximately the same number of students populated the ten state colleges which like the community college, stretch across the commonwealth from the Berkshires to Cape Cod. Interestingly enough, despite movement this year towards consolidation of about six of these state institutions, there are

plans for creating still more community colleges in the Roxbury section of Boston and in the city of Lynn, which is coincidentally the home town of the Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

The 30 campuses in the state system were controlled by their respective Boards of Trustees and central offices and loosely coordinated by the Board of Higher Education and by the Office of the Secretary of Education. This structure was reorganized out of existence by legislative plot in an outside undebatable section of the 1980 budget. At one blow, all the Boards of Trustees, the central offices, the Board of Higher Education and the Office of the Secretary of Education were eliminated to be replaced by a fifteen member Board of Regents many of whom owe their allegiance to private colleges within the state. The chaos which followed as a result of these events have produced a public higher education, budgets in fiscal year 1982 were slashed and a merger at Boston State/UMass designed to take three years, was attempted in three weeks. Other two and four year colleges, were forced to declare financial emergencies. Although timely action by the faculty association appears to have averted further damage this year, it is plain that the situation has not yet been remedied and that further attacks on public higher education can be expected. It is not unlikely that mergers and consolidations of institutions will again be on the agenda next year.

If public higher education is to continue to provide quality education to citizens who cannot afford the private colleges, it must develop an advocacy group of citizens from all walks of life who are dedicated to the preservation of these colleges as indispensable to an educated democratic society. This will test the allegiance of all of us, faculty, students and alumni, to our institutions and test our willingness to speak out for public higher education wherever the issue is raised.

No one wishes the demise of any private institution of higher education but access to higher education should be no less a right than access to primary and secondary education.

Salvoes

By Bobby Salvatore

There's no denying it, we live in an age of specialization. Specialists are everywhere - in business, in the professions, even in sports.

Specialization seems to be a good thing in some ways. A specialist in medicine would certainly be more proficient in this field than would a general practitioner. A deca-athlon athlete, after all, can be out-sprint a sprinter, nor can be out-put a shot putter.

Over the last few years, specialization has been growing at an alarming rate in our four-year colleges. Many colleges have become aware of this and numerous committees have been working on numerous proposals to strengthen general education requirements and ensure well-rounded students. Thank God!

Having gross specialization in an institution designed to expand young minds is contradictory. Take a closer look at specialization. People are complex beings with a variety of needs and a variety of pleasures. A human being, a human mind, survives and thrives on the complexity of life. Specialization by definition reduces complexity and therefore can be a trap. A specialist must be careful not to develop tunnel-vision.

As far as education is concerned, specialization to the point of not seeing the whole picture (i.e. excluding all but your particular field of study) scares me.

I decided to consult my education specialist, the Phantom of Thompson Hall, to get his views on this subject. The Phantom has haunted Thompson Hall since his death

in 1952. He was an English major at Fitchburg State at the time. On the evening when he was watching his first television program he died a mysterious death. Doctors called it MCS (Massive Culture Shock), but that's another story.

"It saddens me," said the Phantom, and he really did look sad, "to see a young mind limited to only one field of study."

"And it angers me to think that many graduates of this college, of my college, have never written a term paper, have never read a real book, and cannot understand the logic behind even the most basic math!"

He was rolling now. With a scowl on his face he roared on and on. He spoke of how all knowledge and all learning is interrelated. He explained that literature - real literature by men like Shakespeare and Wordsworth - holds within the true secrets of psychology and sociology. And how can an English major possibly understand Chaucer if he doesn't have some knowledge of English history?

He went on and on. And on and on (typical of the English scholar). After three long hours, I tried to escape the interview. But the Phantom simply would not let me go.

"I know that everything is becoming specialized," he said. "But why?" He stopped when he saw me sneaking away.

"Just tell me one thing before you go, Bobby," he pleaded, his brow knit in puzzled consternation. I stopped. "Just tell me why American League pitchers don't bat."

"I don't know, buddy. I just don't know."

Ignorance and Apathy

By Skip Dextreze

As some freshmen, obviously, do not know, it is time once again to elect their school representatives. I will repeat this as I am dealing with relative newcomers at Fitchburg State. "It's time to nominate Freshman class officers!"

As in most electoral processes determined by a working democracy, nominations are held, at which time candidates are selected and in turn given time to speak on those qualities which they feel endears them to the position of which they seek. After all the candidates have been given equal time to qualify themselves for election, a selection is then made, determined by vote number. This is called voting. One person - one vote. It's the American way. Apple Pie. Real Wholesome

Yet the Student Government, this year expects only 30 percent of the freshman to vote in the election of their class officers. Why is this? Surely most freshmen are aware of the elections. Then why the poor turnout? Why, year after year, does freshman participation in their own elections dwindle between one-third of the entire class.

Surely a case could be made, that, as a new student, the incoming freshman is not familiar enough with his class-mates to give a qualified vote. Then tell me why, at class functions (alcoholic or not) freshman participation has been rated at predominantly 50 percent or greater? Why do the lines at the College Edge get bigger and bigger, while the attendance at Freshman Candidates Hour get smaller and smaller?

Letters to the Editor

To The Editor:

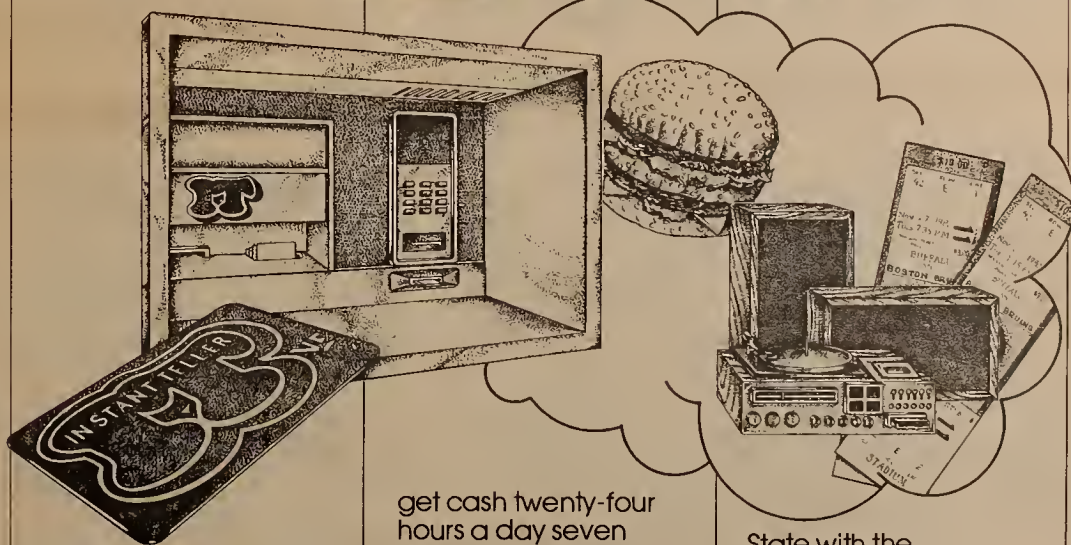
In reference to Mr. Quigley's article (Sept. 25) on the benefit concert, I would like to correct the misinformation concerning the sound problems. I feel credit should be given credit where credit is due. The amps were not ruined due to the incompetency of the sound engineer. Due to the malicious mischief of a member of the audience, a \$200 component of the sound system was rendered irreparable.

It was bad enough that the mishap had to occur, but please realize that it happened due to the absolute stupidity of a spectator and not to "a sound engineer's error."

Elizabeth Long

The Rhetoric encourages submission of letters and news releases and will make every effort to keep editors or cuts to a minimum. We urge contributors to exercise good taste, avoid personal remarks, and write clear, readable prose in accordance with accepted standard English style and usage.

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arts/entertainment

Musicians and their Music

J. B. Hutto and the New Hawks at Weston

By Chris Coleman

This Tuesday night at Weston, the sounds of good Chicago blues will blast forth into the normally rocking campus of Fitchburg State. J. B. Hutto and the New Hawks are coming to the school to play for the student body. The saying goes "If you don't know what the blues are, I'll never be able to explain them to you." If you don't know them, then listening to J. B. is quite possibly the only hope for you to find out. The native Chicagoan has been playing the blues for thirty years, long before the Caucasian community even thought of the blues as music.

Joseph Benjamin Hutto started his musical career in a family group, the Golden Gospel Singers, based in Augusta, Georgia. The group finally dissolved in Chicago where J. B. signed on with Johnny Ferguson and the Twisters. Hutto got his first experience with the guitar here. By the mid 50's he had his own band, The Hawks; they managed to break through to white audiences during the Blues Boom of the 1960's, but like so many trends and lifestyles, blues seemed to wax and wane.

In 1975 Hutto joined up with a group called the Houserockers where he remained for four years. Recently, he has formed a group of three young musicians, all from Boston, called the New Hawks. These four will dazzle

you with nearly half a century of combined experience as they have dazzled others at the nearby campuses of U Mass at Amherst, UConn at Storrs, Clark, Tufts, and Princeton. The group has also played all over the eastern half of the country, as well as Europe.

Hutto's fame comes in part from his brilliant playing of the slide guitar, a variation of the popular instrument which utilizes a steel tube placed on the strings during play. With this guitar, Hutto reaches unbelievable levels of musical action.

See some of this action this Tuesday night at Weston. The show starts at 8:00 p.m. and tickets are \$2.50 with student ID and \$4.50 otherwise. Find out what the blues are, go to Weston Tuesday night.

From Porn to Punk

The Story of Wendy O.

Last Sept. 25th, E.M. Loew's Performing Arts Center in Worcester was host to the musical group, the Plasmatics and their lead singer, Wendy Orlean Williams. Ms. Williams also plays the sledgehammer; she uses it to turn a working television into a pile of broken tubes. The event, a debacle of violence and very strongly implied sex, went over well with the crowd, a collection of oddly dressed, intoxicated (some of them), porno punks.

Williams, an ex-drug addict and porno star, stated she "loves to smash things" just before she ran a car into a shack on a New York pier in Sept. 1980. This "hobby"

was practiced quite well in Worcester as the final tally stood at one television, two radios, a guitar, three speakers, a row of lights, and six flower pots. The flowers were thrown into the audience, soil and all.

The music is little more than rhythmic noise, the group's attitude is rude, crude, and definitely socially unacceptable. A good portion of the lyrics are included in the seven words that George Carlin made famous, the Plasmatics theme song is "Butcher Baby". By now, the reader should have an idea of what the Plasmatics are like. But their appeal lies not with them but with their lead singer, Wendy O. Williams. Her pornographic past is reviewed in the current issue of the "Celeb Poin" High Society magazine. But from this standpoint, Wendy has built up a "schtick" as a singer. And if anyone should disagree with her, they will be rebuffed with a few well chosen words. She, like Liberace is "laughing her way to the bank." She is very good at this punk genre. The violence and tension so necessary to punk is pulled from her own past. Wendy Williams brings out her past in her music. It is loud, offensive, and obnoxious, but it is her expression. Isn't that what music is all about?

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Fitchburg Finds Fixation

By Skip Dextraze

"Parly" "Boogie" "Fun" These words are foreign to some. To others they are a fascination. But, to Robert Ellis Orrall they are a fixation. And he means to prove it. Orrall and his band have been slicing through the rock scene in the Boston area for the better part of five years and now Orrall is bringing his fixation to Fitchburg State for the Homecoming Dance at the cafe on Oct. 17th starting at 8:00 p.m.

What is a fixation you say? Well, beside being the name of Robert Ellis Orrall's newest album, it also describes perfectly the bands attitude towards making "fun" music. Some artists will regale you with songs

about how tough the music industry is, or let you in on an unrequited love affair. Some will go to great lengths to point out, musically, the political irony that laces the country today. But Orrall's only ironic statements concern the fact that the audience is having as much fun as he is doing what he wants to do. Not that Orrall has not had his share of roller coaster rides in music.

After graduating from Lynnfield High he pursued an album of completely solo material. Having paid for the album completely out of his own pocket he was dismayed, to say the least, when it failed to break into the charts. Not one to dwell, he rounded up Charles "Kook" Laurey on guitar and together with Dave Stephannelli

on drums and Don Walden on bass, and formed the Robert Ellis Orrall band. The clubs in Boston usually don't forget a name, and Orrall's soon became a common one on many a marquee. Not content with local success Orrall is bringing his music to many parts of the state in conjunction with his new album in hopes of garnering more disciples into his fixation. The new album is filled with the good vibe sound the band has made their trade mark. There are also reworkings of older material which was on a previous E.P. the band has made. Also included in the new LP are some experimental pop material which Orrall has worked on quite extensively. But does Orrall worry about sounding too commercial? He

states that, "The point of every band with commercial or avant-garde is to have a good time. After all, if bands just came out and complained about how tough it was to make it after every bad break, the audience would see nothing but depressing bands." Orrall prefers to do his moaning away from the stage. The audience pays to have a good time and they should get it. Pretty basic formula. This approach to music affords Robert Ellis Orrall an optimism that is rare of bands playing today. He's a survivor and he can still grin through it all and have a good time. Witness his fixation on Oct. 17th in the cafe.

Scholastic Search

The Scholastic All-American Search has begun, but according to president Mark A. Anderson, not one single Fitchburg State student has submitted an application for the fall 1981 class.

"In fairness to each school and to its students, it is our policy to accept members from each of this country's 1,500 schools," he said. The honor society is a small, non-profit organization comprised of undergraduate and graduate students from all fifty states and several foreign countries.

"We started out with only six members, but our 'All-American' appeal forced us into a nationwide organization," he said.

The goal of the annual Scholastic All-American Search is to admit top students from each community college, junior college, undergraduate, and graduate school in the country. The organization has no local chapters, instead seeks intellectually mature students on a national level. Students are chosen on the basis of their leadership abilities, physical vigor, and intellectual prowess.

Students wishing further information are asked to send a stamped self-addressed envelope to the Scholastic All-American Honor Society, Post Office Box 237, Clinton, New York, 13323.

Newton Sings

By Donna LeCourt

The billing for Howie Newton read, "songwriter - comedian". Those who attended the colleehouse in the Pub Sunday night, Sept. 27th may beg to differ with that description.

Howie Newton presented a one man show. He played songs by such popular artists as The Eagles, The Beatles, Billy Joel, and Eddie Rabbit. He played a few of his own songs, one of which was entitled, "Cosmic Garbage Man Rag" which was cute and amusing. Therefore, it seems, comes the title of songwriter. The comedian billing must have been referring to the dry jokes he made between songs.

Newton's voice, though, is very pleasant, and he plays the guitar and harmonica expertly. He kept in tune with the mellow atmosphere of the colleehouse. But although he played a variety of songs, they all sounded alike. He is a very talented man, but would probably sound better with a group where his voice would blend in.

Howie Newton has an album entitled, "Blasted in the Bleachers" now on sale in the Boston area for those who wish to judge for themselves.

Campus Center Cinema

This Saturday night, the Campus Center Lecture Hall is host to the original movie Tarzan, starring Johnny Weissmuller as the King of the Jungle. His mate Jane (Maureen O'Sullivan) does not get top billing, she is a pretty face and unlike the current Jane, Ms. O'Sullivan can act. The movie is outdated, but even with stereotyped natives and "me Tarzan, you Jane" dialogue, the movie is still a lot of fun and makes for a very good Saturday afternoon.

Following on Wednesday is a science-fiction flick, "Solvent Green", starring Charlton Heston and Leigh Taylor-Young. The future depicted in the movie is bleak, the food situation is critical, the government is totalitarian in nature and exerts considerable force on its citizens. Edward G. Robertson makes his last film appearance in this movie which gets its name from the main false servant in the future time. Make no doubts about it, Wednesday is not going to be "Prince Spaghettini Day."

The 17th brings the famous movie "King Kong." Leave all of your tontons and wookies at home, after 48 years Kong is still The Special Effect Saturday Oct. 17th, 3:30 and

7:00 p.m. at the Campus Center Lecture Hall. Be there to see a legend.

This fortnight of films finishes up with "The Mad Adventure of Rabbi Jacob," a French-made 1974 film dealing with the goings-on of a selection of Jewish people, their lifestyle, interaction with other people (Catholics in particular) and their general outlook on life. The movie tends to be a big Jewish joke, and although the film claims to be possessed of 1500 gags, critics claim it is missing about 1498 or so. Hey, if you have nothing to do, why not? See you in two weeks.

Radio Club

WFRC recently sponsored a benefit concert in Weston and featuring four local bands. The turnout was not as great as we had expected, probably due to the fact that most of the students here weren't familiar with the bands performing.

The reason the benefit was held was a very important one. We WFRC at F.S.C. could like to see WFRC become an FM radio station. Much work has been done in preparation for this, but it involves much more money than we have, so we're taking it upon ourselves to raise the money we need.

We'll be sponsoring many more activities in the future such as a Cinema Night, tonight, featuring City Thrills.

New Staff

The freshmen haven't been the only new faces around lately. The school welcomes the 26 new faculty and 3 new administration members to F.S.C.:

Chandler Creedon and Courtnie Taylor, Instructors, Behavioral Sciences.

Sheila Steele, Instructor, Biology
Michael Markham and Terry McElligott, Instructors, Business Administration.

Margaret Curtis, Assistant Professor, Chemistry.

Mark Irwin, Art Krauss, Helen Obermeyer, Instructors, Communications/Media.

Peter Owens, Assistant Professor, Nancy Yee, Assistant Professor, Nicholas Gorgoglione, Instructor, English.

Steven Therrien, Instructor, Industrial Technology

Janice Ouellette, M.L.S., Library
Herbert Kline, Assistant Professor, Mathematics.

Genifer Anderson, Instructor, Carolyn Cochrane, Assistant Professor, Wendy Galvin, Instructor, Linda McKay, Instructor, Carol Picard, Instructor, Helen Rogers, Instructor, Patricia Schappert, Instructor, Diann Sloan, M.S.N., Nursing.

David Anlaya, Caryl Sickul, Instructors, Physical Education

William Schofield, Assistant Professor, Special Education.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Jeanine, Rita, Kevin, Janine,
I'm so confused! Which one of you
is which? Have a good day!

Love,
Mary

Congrats Beth, Maryann, Linda, and Lisa
and all the rest of the Cabaret Singers.
I love you!

#1 groupie

Gaveleer Pledges!

Good Luck you guys - It REALLY is
worth it!

Love,
Molly

Lori

Next time keep it down!

Love,
An "ear"ful

Muffy -

What do you mean, "What's the
problem, officer?" Is that an everyday
occurrence?

Love,
Kiki

J-

Poor Mickey Mouse!! May he rest
in peace always . . . watch what awful
timing he had.

Love,
K

Jay Bazzo,
WTFMI

Love -
Club 89

PCR #2 and PCR #3,

We shall survive. Just wait and see!
Love,
PCR #1

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76 Summer St., Fitchburg

FSC Falcons Eat Up Beavers 19-0

By Doug Desjardins

The FSC Falcons extended their string of shutout wins to three Sunday, coming back after a shaky first half to overcome the M.I.T. The Falcon Defense retained its unblemished slate once again with outside linebacker Gary Kelly leading the clampdown nabbing an interception, making 12 tackles, and sacking the QB three times (This outstanding performance earned him NECCFC defensive player of the week honors).

Undefeated coach Mike Mezochi couldn't have been more pleased as his top seeded team continued its domination of the NE Collegiate Football Conference. "I thought the team showed a lot of character and the defense turned in a great performance as usual."

The FSC offense, which piled up 462 total yards on the day, had trouble holding on to the ball in the early going, suffering through 5 turnovers in the first half. The Beavers weren't without their troubles though, finding the FSC defense an iron curtain and unable to produce any offensive plays.

The Falcons took over matters in the second half, chipping their way down to the Beaver 13 before Gordon Smith took it in for the first score of the day. Danny Thighe then legged one through the uprights to give the Falcons a 7-0 lead.

Later in the third quarter Dave Falkenstrom led another march down into Beaver territory and ended a rambling drive down to the MIT 10 with a romp around the right end for another score (Falkenstrom lead all rushers for the day with 151 yards



Defense, Defense, Defense

on 19 carries.) The conversion was a flop setting the score 13-0.

The Falcons closed the scoring late in the 4th quarter with the Eldridge-Falkenstrom duet combining for a 71 yard TD connection, setting the final score at 19-0. The Falcons will be defending their undefeated status against Assumption College this Sunday in Worcester.

Photo by Dave Clifford

Player of the week Oct 14 - Oct.

Offensive Robert Eldridge of Fitchburg State sophomore fight end from Milton, Mass. caught four passes for 141 yards and two touchdowns in the Falcon's 28-0 win over Hartford.

Women's Cross Country

The Fitchburg State College Women's Cross Country season is underway.

On September 19th women travelled to Franklin Park in Boston to compete in a tri-meet with Brandeis and Bates College. Seven of the 8 harriers who competed were running in their first meet. The Falcons were paced by Sophomore Captain Debbie Cassinelli, who covered the wet, slippery course in 19:12, good enough for a second place finish. Other Falcon runners placing in the top ten were Kristyn Sluyski and Cathy McGrath, finishing 6th and

10th respectively. This wasn't quite enough though, with a lack of depth as the problem, FSC could only manage a 3rd.

Fitchburg next travelled to Southeastern Mass University to compete in the SMU Invitational. The FSC Harriers fared better in this meet as they placed second in a 5 team field. Captain Debbie Cassinelli once again paced the Falcons finishing 5th overall in a large field with a time of 18 minutes flat. The only other FSC runner to break the top ten was Kristyn Sluyski, finishing tenth overall in a time of 19 minutes.

F.S.C. Women's Volleyball

Varsity's first game was against Babson College, Sept. 19 which they lost. Scores: 15-8, 15-9, 14-16.

They played in the Salem Tournament on Fri. & Sat., Sept. 25, 26. This match consisted of seven matches and the teams were: University of Vermont, U. of Maine, Eastern Conn. St. Coll., M.I.T., Babson College, Salem State, Eastern Nazarene, and F.S.C.

Though they lost the first five matches, they improved with each match. "Their communication and teamwork developed and they put it all together in the sixth match, against Eastern Conn. St. Coll.," said Coach Murray. This team had been undefeated in the tournament, and it proved to be a close game against F.S.C. We took the first match, losing the tiebreaker in overtime. In the

7th match with Babson College, "We avenged our first loss against them," says Coach Bob Murray. They won the match 15-12, 15-4.

Varsity's next game was against U Mass Boston, 9/28. It proved to be another victory. Scores were 15-3, 15-3, 15-8.

On Sept. 30, Varsity played Clark U. Their slogan was "Fight together!", and that they did. Scores were: 11-15, 15-12, 15-4. After varsity's game J.V. played their first match of the season against Mass. Maritime. They were both home games, and being J.V.'s first game, they could have used more school support. After varsity played, the bleachers emptied out. J.V. made it a double victory by winning a close match against Mass. Maritime, 14-15, 15-13, 15-12.

Field Hockey at FSC

Some of you may not have had a field hockey team in high school; if not you should go down to the athletic fields at the end of North Street and check out the action at one of the home games. Where else can you see eleven hot little larks trying to tear the other teams kneecaps off with a stick?

Field Hockey is like ice hockey except that there is one fullback, or "sweeper", who helps the goalie (FSC's Sharon Lowry) defend the net and keep the ball within range of the three halfbacks. They in turn feed the ball to the left and right "links" who, as their name implies, provide the linkage from the backfield to the four forwards (two wings and two inners).

It is fun to follow once you see how these innocent little girls turn

into wenches as they did against Keene (N.H.) State in the season opener. Slender new head coach, last year's assistant, Shirley Morgan jumped about and gesticulated wildly, shouting commands to her crew who rewarded her enthusiasm with a 2-1 overtime win. A strong offensive push culminated in Junior co-captain Debbie Dolan driving both goals into the net.

Other scores thus far have been two 1-0 wins by the Falcon girls. Good overall passing enabled freshman left wing Beth "Bones" Laforce to bring it in against Endicott College and sophomore inner forward Karen Robson slammed it past Worcester State's goalie for the first win against Worcester in two years. The only loss has been against Barrington College, 0-1, making the team's record 3-1 as of September 30.

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